



IOWA
Department of
Natural Resources

The EMS Environmental Policy Statement

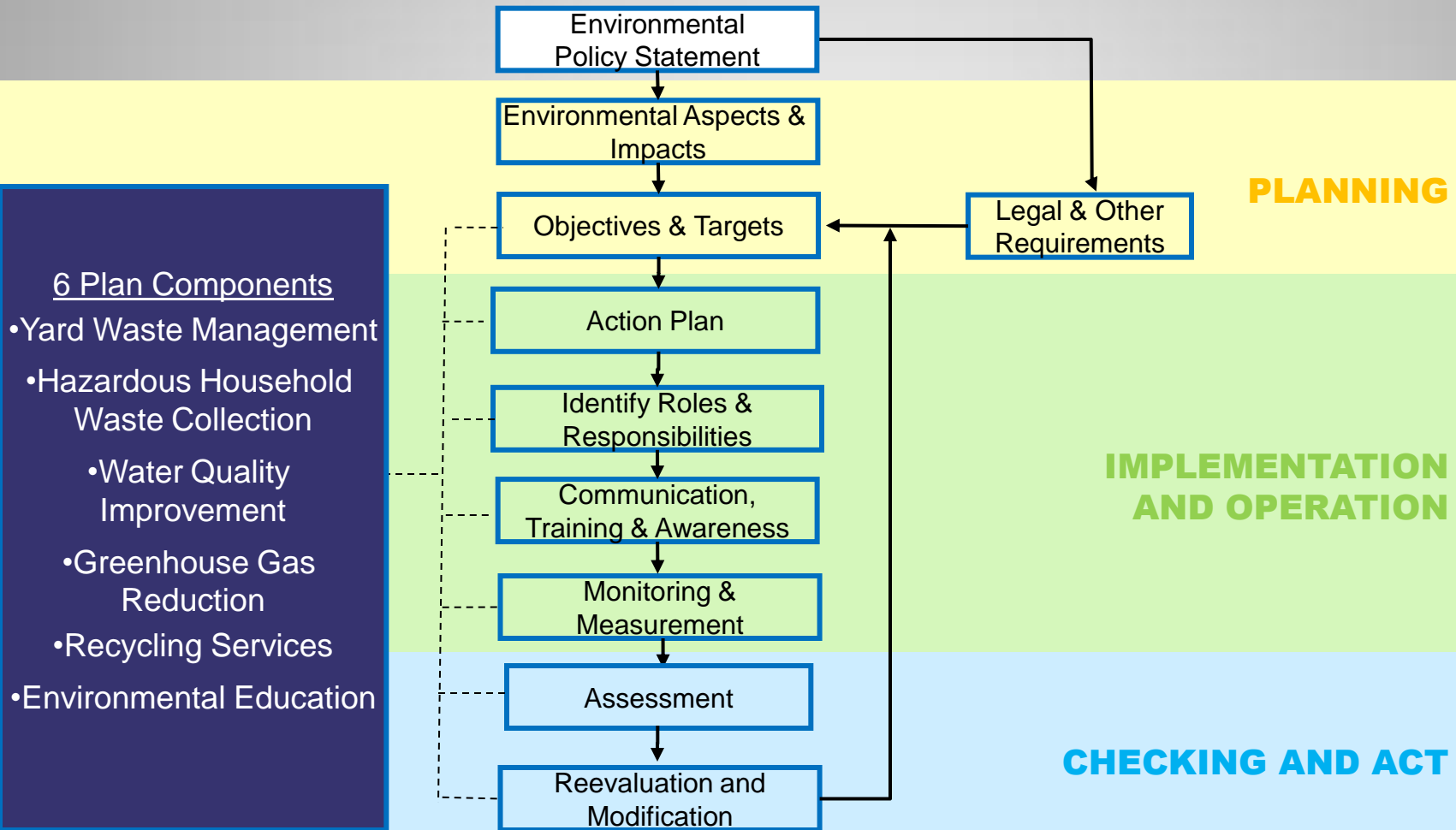
EMS Annual Conference

November 2011



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P A R T N E R S

Iowa EMS Framework (HF 2570)



HF 2570 Essentials

Environmental Policy Statement:

Statement by the organization of its intentions and principles in relation to its overall environmental performance which provides a framework for action and for the setting of its environmental objectives and targets, and its commitment to continual improvement through the EMS.

Environmental Policy

- The Environmental Policy is a Statement of Management's Commitment to the Environment
 - It Can be Used to Educate Staff and the Public
- The Policy Should be Documented and Approved by the Appropriate Level of Management
- Environmental Policies Vary Greatly From Organization to Organization

Things to Consider

- ✓ The Policy Should Express Overarching Management Commitments
- ✓ Set a Policy that Reflects Size and Scope of the Operations
- ✓ Establish a Framework for Action and Setting Objectives and Targets Environmental Goals and Associated Actions
- ✓ Must Commit to Continual Improvement
- ✓ Ability to Use the Policy for Communication





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Policy Elements



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The Policy Should Express Overarching Management Environmental Commitments and Intentions

- ② Should Reflect Organization and Operational Realities
- ② Review Existing Management Commitments to the Environment
 - Are There Commitments to Sustainability?
 - Commitment to Environmental Compliance?
 - Others?
- ② If There are No Existing Documented Commitments
 - Start with Compliance
 - Consider Verbal Directives

Set a Policy that Reflects Size and Scope of the Operations

- Ten Pages for 15 Employees is Probably Over Committing
- The Policy Should Be Approved at the Appropriate Management Level
 - Staff Level
 - Director Level
 - City Council



Establish a Framework for Action and Setting Objectives and Targets

- Overall Statement of How Objectives and Targets will be Set and Progress Measured
- Example: “Objectives and Targets Will be Set by Staff and Progress Measured and Reporting Annually”



Commitment to Continual Improvement through the EMS

Simply State:

“Commitment to Continual Improvement using the EMS”

Or Expand...

“We will Continually Improve our Environmental Performance Through the Use of our EMS by....”

How Are You Going to Use the Policy?

- ⦿ Meet Iowa Requirements!!!
- ⦿ Educate Staff
- ⦿ Educate the Public
- ⦿ Bring Along Naysayers
- ⦿ Organize and Direct Environmental Programs



Example #1

The Organization will implement an Environmental Management System (EMS) to best serve its customers solid waste needs. The Organization is committed to:

- **Improving its environmental performance,**
- **Providing excellent service, and**
- **Following best practices to manage the area's solid waste.**

Example #2

By implementing and maintaining an Environmental Management System we are committed to an ongoing effort of promoting environmental responsibility as an organization as well as emphasizing a heightened environmental awareness to interested parties and stakeholders.

We will demonstrate our commitment to this policy through:

- **Regulatory Compliance – We will meet or exceed applicable regulatory requirements,**
- **Prevention of Pollution – We will identify and prevent or minimize pollution in areas attributed to our operations, wherever feasible, and**
- **Continual Improvement – We will continue to seek out ways to improve our environmental performance using this policy as the basis upon which we set our objectives and targets.**



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RESOLUTION NO. 01 -10

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

THE PURPOSE of this Resolution is to approve a Dubuque Metropolitan Area Solid Waste Agency (DMASWA) Environmental Policy.

WHEREAS, in September 2009, the Solid Waste Alternatives Program Advisory Council (SWAPAC) selected the DMASWA to participate as a pilot participant in the Environmental Management System (EMS) program.

WHEREAS, the DMASWA desires to approve an Environmental Policy to be submitted to the SWAPAC; and,

WHEREAS, the DMASWA staff has presented its Environmental Policy recommendations to the Delaware County Solid Waste Commission (DCSWC) Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Environmental Policy presented to the Board on March 18, 2010, is APPROVED.

This Resolution passed, approved and adopted this 18th day of March 2010.

APPROVED:



Chairperson



Metro Waste Authority Environmental Policy

Metro Waste Authority's vision of "No Wasted Resources" elevates environmental protection to one of fundamental importance. Because our employees impact this vision in their daily activities, all are dedicated to carrying out responsibilities for environmental stewardship through:

- **Pollution Prevention** – We will identify and prevent or minimize pollution in all areas of our operations wherever feasible.
- **Regulatory Compliance** – We will comply with all relevant environmental legislative, regulatory, permit and other requirements associated with our industry.
- **Continual Improvement** – We will constantly look for ways to improve our environmental performance using this policy as the basis upon which we set our goals.
- **Training** – We will provide the tools to create awareness of MWA's environmental impacts, protect health and safety, comply with rules and regulations, and support our environmental objectives.

Metro Waste Authority is dedicated to carrying out our environmental responsibilities in a manner that demonstrates true leadership in integrated solid waste management while continuing to provide the highest level of service.

We will work collaboratively with our customers, suppliers and our communities on environmental issues. We will measure and review our progress annually and periodically report the results to our stakeholders.

Environmental Policy Statement

The Cedar Rapids/Linn County Solid Waste Agency (Agency) is a public entity charged with promoting landfill diversion and managing disposal of solid waste in Linn County. Waste diversion is promoted through a variety of methods including community education, recycling, composting, and recovery of wood products for biomass fuel. Waste is managed by landfilling. This policy establishes the foundation for an Environmental Management System (EMS) and applies to Agency operations and activities as well as heightens environmental awareness in the community.

In keeping with its mission, the Agency Board of Directors and its employees are committed to protecting and preserving the community by implementing an integrated solid waste management plan that protects the community's land, air and water. Agency Board of Directors and employees are committed to:

- Preventing or minimizing, to the extent most practical, damage to the environment
- Promoting employee, customer and contractor safety via appropriate emergency and operational policies, procedures, and training programs
- Meeting and, where appropriate, exceeding requirements of applicable local, state, and federal regulations
- Fostering open communication with employees and the public, anticipating and responding to their concerns about potential and actual impacts of operations and services
- Maintaining the financial viability of services through appropriate revenue sources and efficient operations
- Promoting the use of recycled and reused materials through education and outreach programs as well as exploring and supporting sustainable markets for recovered materials
- Developing, designing and operating facilities that are energy and resource efficient
- Promoting continuous improvement in pollution prevention by establishing environmental objectives and targets that can be measured and evaluated

EMS efforts are led by a core team of staff members. Members of the team actively solicit input from employees at all Agency sites. As they are developed, activities associated with objectives and targets will be tracked monthly by the core team, evaluated semi-annually by management, and communicated to the Board of Directors and staff on a regular basis.



RATHBUN AREA

SOLID WASTE COMMISSION

RASWC
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Iowa EMS Pilot Project
Environmental Management System
Environmental Policy Statement
Doc ID# 002EMS-09
December 3, 2009

Rathbun Area Solid Waste Commission is committed to developing and maintaining an Environmental Management System for the purposes of enhancing environmental stewardship of the Rathbun Planning Area. RASWC's commitment will be demonstrated through regulatory compliance and continual improvement in the following six categories:

- Yard waste management
- Household hazardous waste collection
- Water Quality improvement
- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Recycling services
- Environmental education

In keeping with this policy, RASWC will establish and maintain an EMS that provides a framework for setting and reviewing RASWC's environmental objectives and targets for each of its processes, services and/or activities.

Adopted: December 8, 2009
Date

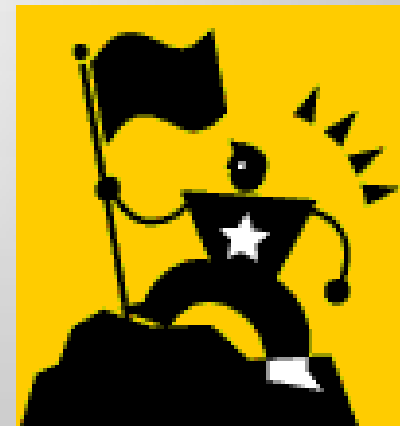
/s/ Ralph Alshouse
Chairman: Ralph Alshouse

/s/ Jennifer Frampton
Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Frampton



Environmental Policy “Best Practices”

- ⦿ No More Than One Page
- ⦿ Don't Over Commit/Careful of Using “Ensure”
- ⦿ Signature at the Bottom to Indicate Approval
 - Consider Management Approval Process and Timing
- ⦿ Post Policy At Facility
- ⦿ Fit the Policy to Your Organization
 - Inspirational
 - Instructional
 - Regulatory
 - Combination
- ⦿ Recognize that Change May be Difficult





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QUESTIONS?



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